

Tom Warne: Tom discussed the “Wants versus Needs” issue when choosing future transportation projects to be built. He noted that one thing that we can count on is that change will happen and things will increase. He pointed out the changes that have happened in the last 30 years in computer technology. Memory chips are vastly more powerful today than when first made.

Tom noted several principles for defining Idaho’s future – Transportation is tied closely with Idaho’s future. Transportation’s objectives are moving people and goods in a timely manner. Idaho’s economic development, tourism, quality of life, agriculture, etc., are heavily influenced by the surface transportation system. Transportation projects of the future must meet the ultimate statewide goals while addressing local issues.

Tom also listed several considerations for developing future projects:

- Projects should be tied to statewide transportation objectives.
- Measurement of each project’s costs, timeliness, efficiency, etc., must be used and communicated to Idaho’s citizens.
- All options and technological uses should be considered.
- The transportation program should balance statewide needs and local issues.

And finally, the real challenge is to properly spend available funds and get projects completed.

Questions and Answers:

- Cecil Ingram asked about the pricing on the distributed project lists?  
Tom answered that Dwight Bower will review the lists in a few minutes.